

0230-0162P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

olicant:

Kenji ASANO et al.

Conf.:

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Appl. No.:

09/856,717

Group:

1654

TECH CENTER 1800/2900

Filed:

May 25, 2001

Examiner: C. TATE

For:

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JUN 8 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE 1.114 RCE APPLICATION)

JUN 3 0 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

June 4, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449(s), attached hereto.

II. COPIES (check at least one box)

- Ø This application was filed before June 30, 2003. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. This application filed was on June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications therefore are not included. Copies of foreign

patent documents and non-patent literature are included.

c. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The patents, publications, or other information listed on the attached PTO 1449 are in the English language and therefore, do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

An English language abstract is submitted with JP 7-173070

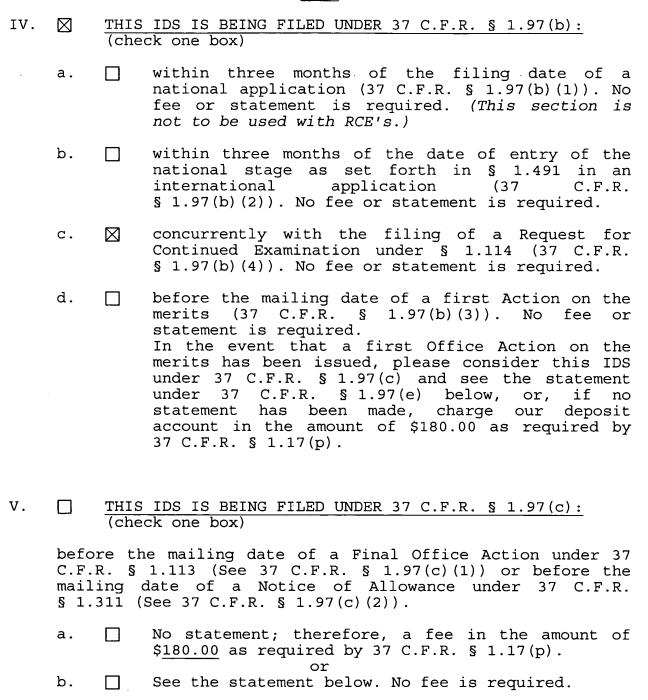
An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3).

d. \boxtimes OTHER

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

Also submitted is US publication no. 2004/0038330 which is an English equivalent of JP 7-173070

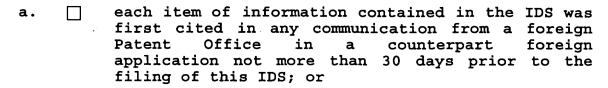
FEES



Appl. No. 09/856,717

VI. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that



- b.
 each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- c. no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.
- d. Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Office Patent counterpart in a application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VII. PAYMENT	OF FEES (check one box)
	theck in the amount of $$180.00$ as required by 37.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed for the above-identified.
amo ind	ase charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the unt required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the above-icated fee. A triplicate copy of this paper is ached.
⊠ No	fee is required.
he/she is r determined th the PTO is re	Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, equested to contact the undersigned. If it is at this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, equested to consider this IDS under the proper rule appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.
this, concurrenced transfer any or additional fe	essary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in rent, and future replies, to charge payment or verpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any es required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; extension of time fees.
	Respectfully submitted,
	BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
	By Mac Gerald M. Murphy, Jr., #28,977 MaryAnne Armstrong, PhD., #40,069
GMM/MAA/csm 0230-0162P	P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, VA 22040-0747 (703) 205-8000
Attachment(s)	: Documents Documents Foreign Search Report Other:

(Rev. 05/14/2004)